

THE INDEPENDENT

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Daily (including Sunday) per year \$10.00
 Daily (including Sunday) six months \$5.00
 Daily (including Sunday) three months \$2.50
 Daily (including Sunday) per month .75
 Daily (excluding Sunday) per month .50
 Daily, by carrier, per week (7 issues) .25
 Weekly (in advance only) per year \$2.00

Remittances at the risk of subscriber unless made by registered letter, check, or postal order payable to The Independent Publishing Company.

Persons desiring THE INDEPENDENT served at their homes or places of business can order by postal card or through telephone No. 100. Please report cases of irregular delivery promptly. Advertisements to insure prompt insertion, should be handed in before 8 p. m. Rejected communications not returned unless postage is inclosed.

HELENA, MONT., DEC. 7, 1889.

THAT'S BUSINESS.

The eight democratic senators have joined in a letter to the eight republican senators proposing the appointment of a joint committee composed of three republicans and three democrats to investigate the election at precinct 34, in Silver Bow county. As we understand it the republicans have never sought to adduce evidence of fraud at that precinct. In the court proceedings at Butte they simply sought to justify the action of the returning board in throwing out the entire vote of the precinct in question by averring that the returns were slightly irregular in form. Only in the newspapers and in irresponsible street talk have they claimed that there was any fraud committed. They have, until now, taken the position that the state canvassing board having ignored the mandamus of the district court by issuing certificates to defeated candidates, the men so defeated shall be sustained in their attempt to get the seats of men who were elected.

The democratic senators assume that there are republican senators and constituents, however, who honestly believe that fraud was committed or that they wouldn't for a moment tolerate the dead-locking of the legislature. Perhaps this is so. If it is, the invitation of the democratic senators to these republicans will be promptly accepted, and the country will be speedily placed in possession of the bottom facts. Certainly the democratic proposition is fair, honorable and manly, and it will meet the approval of all right-thinking men everywhere.

Turn on the light.

THE JACK O' LANTERN BRIGADE.

"Not to-day, but to-morrow," is the promise daily made by Sanders, Hersfield & Co., to the republican members elect of the house of representatives, who are growing weary of the deadlock and who realize the wrong they are doing to the state.

"We're getting a scheme fixed up for the election of senators," say the siren state stealers, "and you'll know all about it to-morrow." And so they beguile their tired followers. One day the conspirators hint that certain democrats will join the rump; the next they will talk of seating innocent old Mr. Watson; another time they will whisper "We've fixed Rickards so as to get him to rule McNamara out," and so on.

Last night the drooping spirits of the rump were braced up with the declaration that the sergeant-at-arms would be sent out by the lieutenant governor to-day to bring in the democratic senators elect and that an attempt would be made to make them submit to fraud and become parties to the great conspiracy. The story was generally circulated but found few believers. The gudgeons wouldn't bite.

Like every other threat this was merely a bluff to keep republican courage up. The conspirators are not likely to make themselves subjects for universal ridicule by a silly performance like that. They are desperate, but they are not quite gone daft.

To-morrow they will have a new illusion for their discouraged followers.

WHAT CARTER COSTS US.

In the five days since Reed of Maine, the enemy of silver, was elected speaker of the house of representatives, silver has dropped in price about one and a half cents.

Montana produces \$12,000,000 to \$14,000,000 of silver annually and the above shrinkage represents a loss to our silver men already of about \$200,000.

Reed could have been beaten had Congressmen Thomas H. Carter persistently and openly fought his election. The republicans would not have dared to nominate him in the face of a determined opposition. But Carter worked and hustled for Reed and brought over many western votes to him.

Carter's work cost Montana \$200,000. He has been a congressman just five days.

Forty thousand dollars a day for a congressman. Whew! Isn't that high, even for Carter?

BOSH!

That Mr. McNamara, of Fergus county, is ineligible to a seat in the senate of Montana, is settled beyond the shadow of a doubt. In the lucrative post-tradership position which he now holds he is under the protection of and control of the secretary of the interior, and is in every sense of the word a government officer.—Journal.

The secretary of the interior has nothing to do with the case. The post-traders get their permits through the war department.

They are no more government officers than are liquor dealers who also are compelled to get government licenses to do business.

Post-traders have sat in our legislature time without number and their right to their seats was never questioned.

Would-be Senator Power's partner, J. H. McKnight, post trader at Fort Shaw, sat for years in the Montana legislature. Would-be Senator Sanders was a colleague of McKnight's and never questioned his eligibility.

If you are going to steal a state, do it by bold villainy. Don't be a fool about it.

WHO ARE THEY?

Who are these republican senators who question Mr. McNamara's right to his seat? Where are their superior credentials—those state returning board certificates—they talk so loftily about? Not one of them holds a valid certificate except from a county clerk. Not one of them has a certificate signed by the state board of canvassers.

Such of them as have not filed county clerk's certificates are holding their seats on the strength of a worthless piece of paper like this which is a true copy:

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
 TERRITORY OF MONTANA,
 I, Benjamin F. White, governor of the Territory of Montana, do hereby certify that the general election provided for in ordinance No. Two, passed and enacted by the constitutional convention of Montana, held in the city of Helena, in the year 1889, under the provisions of an act of congress entitled "An act to provide for the division of Dakota into two states and to enable the people of North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana and Washington to form constitutions and state governments and to be admitted into the union on an equal footing with the original states, approved February 22d, 1889,"

ROBERT FINNER was duly elected a senator in the legislative assembly of the state of Montana in and for the county of Jefferson, state of Montana as appears by the official returns and statement of votes cast, on file in the office of the secretary of Montana Territory.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the territory to be affixed. Done at the city of Helena, the capital of said territory, this fourth day of November, A. D. 1889, and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and thirtieth.

By the Governor, BENJAMIN F. WHITE.

(SEAL) LOUIS A. WALKER, Secretary of State.

Eight to seven is an alluring game for republicans. By that play they stole the presidency for Hayes, and, Lieut. Gov. Rickards consenting, they propose to steal two seats in the United States senate by the same combination. But when that proposition is made to him Mr. Rickards is likely to say: "Gentlemen, Article V, section 4 of the constitution of the state of Montana says: 'The legislative assembly of this state until otherwise provided by law, shall consist of sixteen members of the senate,' etc., and section 10 provides that 'a majority of each house shall constitute a quorum.' There are but eight senators, not a majority, present. Nothing is in order but a motion to adjourn. I would like to oblige my party friends, but I cannot subject myself to dishonor or impeachment for their benefit."

The Hersfield-Power combination against Sanders holds firm as a rock. Carpenter and Mantle are the senatorial pair. Hersfield would like to throw Carpenter and squeeze in himself but isn't sure of his ground yet. But Sanders is beaten out of sight, beyond the shadow of a doubt. Carpenter and Mantle will get a three-fourths vote in the caucus of republican senators, and two-thirds of the rump house.

The frequency of William Jack Campbell's visits to the office of Oily B. Platt is not, as might be supposed, because of his interest in the work of the Code commission. The well-bent trail he has made between the Journal office and the aforesaid political den rather betokens more infamous mischief than that accomplished by him with the Silver Bow canvassing board.

CANVASSER BLAKE has "eliminated" himself from future preferment and the respect of the good people of the state. Will Lieutenant Governor Rickards tarnish his fair name by acceding to the wishes of a band of political conspirators?

MR. RUSSELL HARRISON's newspaper clumsily invites Mr. Rickards to violate the law under the guise of "making a precedent." The Journal is far from complimentary to Mr. Rickard's intelligence.

HAVING induced Auditor Kenney to set up as governor, the thieves are now trying to persuade Lieut. Gov. Rickards to declare himself a senator. Unlike Kenney, Mr. Rickards has a reputation to save.

OLD Warhorse Sanders has his hands full editing our two republican contemporaries, both daily. Sanders inveighing against "turpitude" in two newspapers at once is a holy spectacle.

Do the thieves think they can mislead Lieutenant Governor Rickards by quoting Sunday school hymns at him? We don't believe it.

That is not a state canvassing board certificate. White signs as governor, Walker as secretary, and Canvasser Blake not at all. What sort of credentials are they, anyway?

The annual election of the board of trade to-night should be attended by every member. It ought to be a great revival meeting.

SANDERS may write the party editorials but I'll take the bun.—B. Flat C.

Niles in a Bad Plight.
 NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—Nathaniel M. Niles, Jr., ex-president of the Tradesman's National Bank, of New York city, was indicted to-day by the grand jury for letting a house for immoral purposes.

Will Not Lease.

TABLEQUAH, I. T., Dec. 6.—The senate of the Cherokee council to-day adopted the report of the committee which recommended that the offer of Williamson, Blair & Co., of Independence, to lease the outlet, be declined.

Robbed a Building Association.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 6.—William Peters, arrested for embezzlement from a building association, has made a confession. The amount taken is about \$15,000.

WHAT SAY THE SENATORS?

Democrats Make a Fair Proposition to Their Opponents.

To the Editor of the Independent: I transmit you herewith a true copy of a proposition this day submitted to republican senators, which you are at liberty to publish.

C. W. HOFFMAN.

HELENA, MONT., Dec. 6, 1889.

To Messrs. Brown, Armstrong, Olds, Fisher, Hedges, Rutherford, Thompson and Babcock, Republican Senators of the First Legislative Assembly of the State of Montana:

Gentlemen:—We assume that in common with the rest of our fellow citizens and the people of the country at large, you fully understand the reason why we, the democratic senators-elect to the First legislative assembly of the state of Montana have not joined with you in an organization of the body to which we and you were duly elected.

We have held and still hold that the action of the republican members-elect of the co-ordinate branch of the legislature in refusing to comply with the governor's proclamation designating the time and place of meeting for that body, and in organizing as a separate body, to which they admitted members not elected either in law or in equity, was revolutionary in its character and in defiance of constitutional authority.

Believing that the meeting of the senate under such circumstances, with a difference of opinion among its members as to which of the two bodies claiming to be the co-ordinate branch of the legislature should be recognized, we have pursued the only course which we believed would tend to the preservation of peace and the avoidance of further disorder and confusion, and refrained from joining with you in the organization of the senate.

Recognizing, however, that there may be those among your members or among your constituents who may have honest doubts as to the fairness and integrity of the election at precinct 34 in Silver Bow county, over which all the unfortunate existing differences have arisen, and wishing in common with all other law-abiding citizens to do everything in our power to bring about a speedy and honorable adjustment of the controversy, which is so detrimental to our business interests and damaging to the name of our state, we respectfully invite you to join us in a full, fair and searching inquiry into the manner in which the election was conducted at said precinct 34, with a view to throwing out every vote found to have been fraudulently cast thereat.

If you will select three out of the eight democratic senators for that purpose we will in a like manner, select three of the republican senators to join in such investigation.

We pledge you on our part to make such inquiry as thorough and complete as you may desire.

In our opinion in such investigation all technicalities should be avoided, court proceedings, newspaper comments and canvassing board decisions, passed over, and the inquiry directed solely to the question of fraud at said precinct, with a view to throwing out every fraudulent ballot, and the ascertainment of the true result of said election.

Hoping that you may agree with us, that this proposition furnishes the basis of a fair and honorable settlement of the differences between our respective parties, we remain yours, with great respect.

JOSEPH A. BAKER, C. W. HOFFMAN,
 W. M. THORNTON, R. G. REDD,
 WM. PARKER, C. J. McNAMARA,
 D. HENNESSY, W. S. BECKER.

Carpenter Won't Do.

Billings Gazette, Rep.: There appears to be considerable discussion just now by several leading journals over the report that ex-Gov. Carpenter is to be one of the republican senators from Montana. The discussion is not very favorable to Mr. Carpenter, and moreover it is not confined to the democratic press alone, but republican newspapers are taking a hand in the matter. This unfavorable criticism to Mr. Carpenter it is alleged is brought about from the reason that the ex-governor during his political career in New York state caused a split in the republican party in '82 which led the party down to an overwhelming defeat in the state election that year. Unfortunately for ex-Governor Carpenter the charges made against him are only too true. The people of Montana posted in political affairs of the country remember well the treachery of Carpenter to Cornell and which caused Folger, Cornell's opponent for the nomination for governor, to be buried under an avalanche of votes. Past histories of men seeking the honor to represent Montana in the senate of the United States should be well considered.

REVIVAL IN JAIL.

"Where is My Wandering Boy?"—Effects of the Old, Old Story.

The various penal institutions about Cincinnati are experiencing an unusual sensation, says a recent dispatch. At the work house 700 prisoners are much interested in religious services, conducted Sundays, by the lecturer of a local dime museum. But at the county jail the awakening amounts to a genuine revival. Evangelist Randall is in charge, and daily he is preaching short, but intensely earnest, sermons to the prisoners there. Jailor Williams, who has not been much "stuck," as he expresses it, on religion about the jail, is greatly interested, and says there must be something in this movement, as it lasts all day with the prisoners.

To-day, at the conclusion of his address, Randall sang "Where is My Wandering Boy To-night?" The song produced a strange effect. Charles Rhythe, just convicted of murdering Gen. Jones, and who has never shown the slightest feeling, bowed his head and wept. One old man, a chronic petty thief, fell on his knees and sobbed aloud. Out in the hall, Gus Sweeney, late license clerk in the city comptroller's office, convicted of embezzlement, and a member of a leading family, shook with emotion and caught the bars of his cell to keep from fainting, and dozens of others asked for prayers. Over in the female department similar scenes were enacted. After Randall had spoken to them on "What is Your Occupation," and sang "There is a Fountain Filled With Blood," many women joined in the song and many others sobbed as if their hearts were broken. Jailor Williams says the prisoners seem like a new lot of beings, and coarse songs and oaths are no longer heard. Every Bible about the place is in constant use, and those who can read go over the old story to those who cannot. The prisoners go to bed singing Sunday-school hymns, and the guards say many a Magdalen and many an old sinner kneels down to pray before going to bed.

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MISSIE'S JERSEY BLOUSE

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